Indians imprisoned in jails abroad

5031. SHRISURESHKALMADI:

SHRISANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many Indians are serving time in jails in East European and West Asian countries,

(b) if so, the number of Indians serving time and in which countries;

(c) whether the cases that were filed against them were all genuine; and

(d) the actions taken by Government in those cases that were manipulated against the innocent Indians?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA): (a) Yes.

(b) 1 - Poland; 5 - Russia; 3 - Ukraine; 206 - Bahrain; 162 - Kuwait; 79 - Oman; 45 - Qatar; 1160 - Saudi Arabia; 923 - United Arab Emirates.

(c) and (d) There have been no reports to the effect that due process of law-was not followed in all these cases. All Indian Missions abroad have been issued instructions to intervene if there are prima facie grounds to believe that there has been a miscarriage or denial of justice.

Indian Labour Force in Iraq

5032. SHRI P. PRABH AK AR REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have carried out any survey of the Iraq war on the working conditions of the Indian labour force in Iraq;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether after the cessation of the war, there has been a tremendous demand of Indian labour in Iraq; and

(d) if so. the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA): (a) and (b) On the advice of the Indian Mission in Baghdad, most Indian nationals left Iraq prior to the outbreak of war. About 20 persons remained, all of whom chose to stay.

(c) No

(d) Does not arise.